

**Children's Ministries Lesson – Preschool/Kindergarten**  
**The Triumphal Entry - Palm Sunday**  
**Matthew 21:1-11; Mark 11:1-11; Luke 19:28-40; John 12:12-19**  
**April 5, 2020**

Children's Ministries purpose is **to build a spiritual foundation in each child that lasts a lifetime.**

We hope this lesson provides additional opportunities for your family to strengthen your relationship with each other and with Jesus. This lesson has components of both Children's Church and Sunday School fused together.

As you prepare for this lesson and the space you will use, please gather supplies, create a worship focal point (ideas: a Bible, a cross, a candle, and an offering container), and remove other distractions from the area. Read through this lesson before beginning. *Wording in BLUE italics is information for the family leader(s). BLACK italics are actions to do.*

With love, from your Children's Ministries Team and Worship Leaders, Ashley Hymel, Thanushka Lewkebandara, and Tina Throckmorton.

**BIBLE STORY POINT:** Jesus came to save us, and to be our forever king! Palm Sunday is a special day in which we waive branches and celebrate Jesus as our Savior!

**SUPPLIES:** worship focal point ideas: a Bible, a cross, a candle and an offering container; praise and worship song links; Bible story link; activity supplies (see activity options below).

**FAMILY CHANT:** *During Sunday School, your children begin with a "class chant". To bring that to your home, create a family chant that you can say each time. Create your own or use this one. The chant helps connect mind with body and connects everyone together. Motions/actions are in parentheses.*

Let's create our own family "chant" as a way to begin our time together. Repeat what I say and do:

I reach up (*reach both hands up to the sky*) **I reach up (*reach both hands up to the sky*)**

I reach down (*reach both hands down to their toes*) **I reach down (*reach both hands down to their toes*)**

I share a smile to everyone (*smile at each other*) **I share a smile to everyone (*smile at each other*)**

I see you (*point to each other*) **I see you (*point to each other*)**

You see me (*point to self*) **You see me (*point to self*)**

Together we make the [*insert family name*] family. (*put arms around each other's shoulders - form a huddle*)

**Together we make the [*insert family name*] family. (*put arms around each other's shoulders - form a huddle*)**

## **OPENING PRAISE SONGS:**

**Supplies:** Select the links for Praise and worship Music (use one or both links)

1. [“Greeting Song” & “Hosanna”](#) (Tina Throckmorton, Sunday School Music Teacher)



2. [“Hosanna Rock”](#) (Ashley & Thanushka Lewkebandara, Contemporary & Children’s Church Worship Leaders)



## **OFFERTORY:**

*Determine where your offering will go. You may select an organization of your choice, or save it until we return to Sunday School/Children’s Church to give to our current mission. The below scripture is the scripture we use each Sunday during our Offertory time.*

Let's say this scripture together. "God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:7.

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER:**

Now, let us say The Lord's Prayer together. (If your child is just learning it, an "echo" prayer can be a helpful way to learn it. If your child already knows it, you may say it together:

Let us pray.

Our Father, **Our Father,**

who art in heaven, **who art in heaven,**

hallowed be thy name. **hallowed be thy name.**

Thy kingdom come, **Thy kingdom come,**

thy will be done **thy will be done**

on earth as it is in heaven. **on earth as it is in heaven.**

Give us this day **Give us this day**

our daily bread. **our daily bread.**

And forgive us our trespasses, **And forgive us our trespasses,**

as we forgive those **as we forgive those**

who trespass against us. **who trespass against us.**

And lead us not **And lead us not**

into temptation, **into temptation,**

but deliver us from evil. **but deliver us from evil.**

For thine is the kingdom, **For thine is the kingdom,**

and the power, **and the power,**

and the glory, forever. **and the glory, forever.**

Amen. **Amen.**

### **LEARNING SCRIPTURE:**

*Repeat this Bible verse together a few times.*

"God loves us. He sent Jesus to save us." John 3:16-17

This is the word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

### **INTRO TO BIBLE STORY**

Today is the last Sunday of Lent. Next Sunday is Easter! Today is a special day in the church called Palm Sunday.

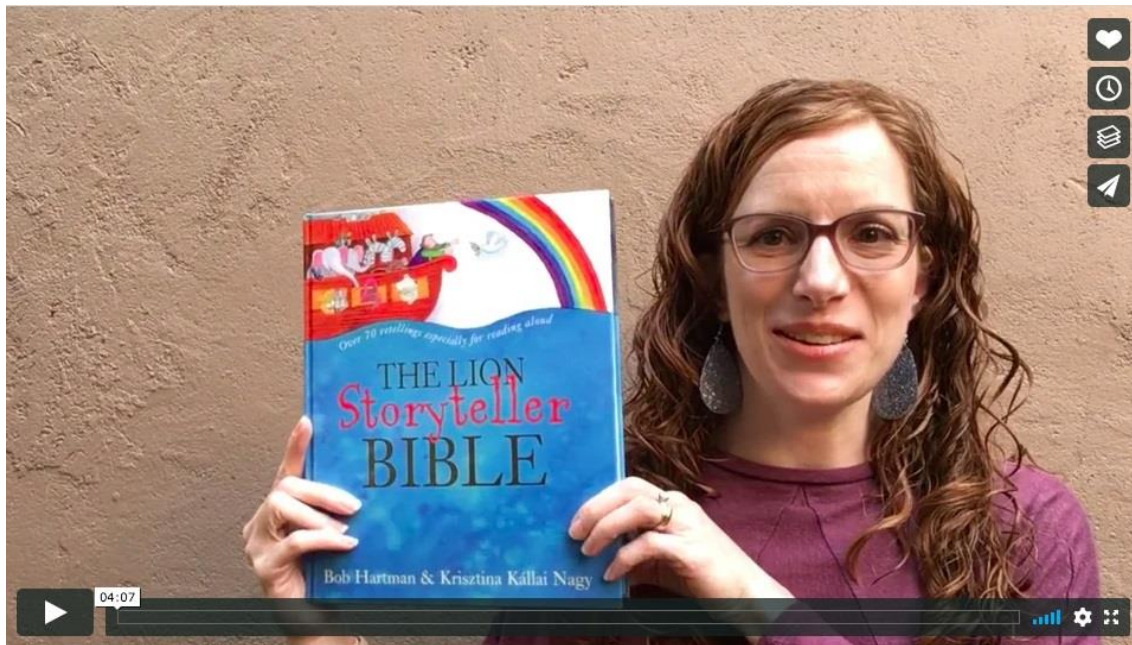
All the people in the town of Jerusalem were gathering for a celebration called Passover. The people heard that Jesus was coming. More and more people knew about Jesus and had started to believe that Jesus is the son of God. They treated him like he was their special king. They were so excited!

So, they wanted to celebrate in a special way. They decided to have a parade. Have we been to a parade before? *(Share a memory of a parade your family has attended together.)* The people looked and looked for Jesus. They waited and waited for Jesus. Then, they could see him coming towards them!



## **BIBLE STORY:**

**Supplies:** [Click here](#) for the Bible story video:



Let's watch and listen to this Bible story in this video. It is called "The Great Parade" from the Lion Storyteller Bible by Bob Hartman and Krisztina Kallai Nagy.

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

1. How many of you have seen movies with kings or queens in it? What do they ride? (*a horse*)
2. What did Jesus ride into Jerusalem in the story? (*a donkey*) Horses are for royalty, and a donkey is just a farm animal. Jesus just wanted everyone to know that they are special to God. He did not act like a regular king. Jesus rode on a donkey because donkeys were the animals that all people had, not just kings and queens.
3. What did the people lay on the ground for Jesus? (*coats*) The coats were laid down like a carpet for Jesus.
4. What were the people waving in the air? (*palm branches*)
5. Do you remember what they said when they waved the palm branches? (*Jesus, the teacher! Jesus, the healer! Three cheers for Jesus!*)
6. Palm Sunday was a very happy day! It was a celebration! What were the people excited about? (*The people were welcoming Jesus to their town. They were hoping for an earthly king to lead them and save them.*) We know that we need Jesus to save us because we make mistakes. He brings us closer to God.

## **ECHO PRAYER:**

*If you would like, feel free to cut a "palm branch" from your yard. Any type of branch will do! Start an echo prayer, but **instead of bowing heads**, encourage your family to wave their palms in praise!*

We are going to say a big word in this prayer, Hosanna. Hosanna means SAVE US. Remember singing that word in our opening songs? We know that we need Jesus to save us because we make mistakes. He brings us closer to God. Now, let us pray!

Here you come, Jesus! **(Here you come, Jesus!)**

Hosanna, save us! **(Hosanna, save us!)**

Blessed is Jesus who comes in the name of the Lord! **(Blessed are you who comes in the name of the Lord!)**

Hosanna in the Highest! **(Hosanna in the Highest!)**

Amen. **Amen.**

### CRAFT – Palms Hands



<http://ohamanda.com/2011/04/18/palm-palms-a-giveaway-the-beginning-of-our-resurrection-week/>

We are going to make a palm branch out of your very own handprint!

#### **Supplies:**

1. One pipe cleaner, or popsicle stick, or ruler, or wooden spoon, rolled up paper, or even a small branch (any such item on which to attach the hand cutouts)
2. Green construction paper
3. If no green construction paper, use white paper and your child can color it green
4. Glue stick
5. Tape
6. Scissors (for parent)

#### **Instructions:**

1. Help child draw around their hands four times. (Parents, trace your hands too and make a palm branch too!)
2. Parent, cut out drawn hands.
3. Have child glue the green hands together, making it look like the leaves on a palm branch.
4. Use a small piece of tape to tape the “palms” to the pipe cleaner, or other such item.
5. Show your child how to wave their palm branch, just like the crowd did during the Palm Sunday parade!

## **GAME #1 – Palm Branch Limbo**

**Supplies:** palm hands craft or “palm branches” from your yard; worship music

Ask your child to limbo under the palm branches while the other family members cheer them on. Have fun!

## **GAME #2 – Praise Freeze Dance**

**Supplies:** worship music; palm hands/branches

Let us dance around waving the palm hands we created to children’s praise and worship songs.

Use the songs included in this lesson or select your own. When the song stops, your child must freeze. Your child may start dancing again when the music resumes. Encourage the entire family to participate for a praise party!

Optional: If you would like to send a picture of your Palm Sunday celebration, we would love to see them! Email pictures to [JEllerbrock@stlukesmethodist.org](mailto:JEllerbrock@stlukesmethodist.org)

## **CLOSING:**

God sent his son Jesus to earth to be our forever king. The people were so excited to welcome Jesus to Jerusalem to be their king. Palm Sunday is one way we celebrate that Jesus has come to be our king!

## **SCRIPTURE:**

Let’s repeat today’s Bible verse. “God loves us. He sent Jesus to save us.” John 3:16-17  
This is the word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

## **CLOSING PRAYER:**

*May be said as an echo prayer, if desired.*

Dear God,  
Thank you for sending us Jesus to teach us and love us.  
Help us to pray for our friends, family, and all those sick.  
Hosanna, save us.  
We love you.  
In Jesus’ name we pray. **Amen.**

**CLOSING SONG:**

**Supplies:** [Click here](#) for closing song, “We Will Worship” (Ashley Hymel & Thanushka Lewkebandara)

*Play the closing song.*



**SERVICE OPPORTUNITY – to continue our worship all week!**

**Healthcare Cards:** Please consider making one or more cards for our local healthcare workers. Snap or scan a picture and email it to: [HealthcareCard@stlukesmethodist.org](mailto:HealthcareCard@stlukesmethodist.org). We will share them with some of our local heroes. **Thank you!**